REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are all the claims pending in the application, with claim 1 being the only independent claim.

The foregoing amendment to claim 11 includes a feature previously recited in claim 5, and therefore has already been considered by the Examiner. The other claim amendments are clarifying in nature so that the dependent claims recite elements which are consistent with the changes to claim 1. As such, this amendment raises no new issues requiring further consideration and/or search, and accordingly entry is believed proper, and is respectfully requested.

The claims remain rejected as previously set forth in the last Office Action. In particular, claims 1-7 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the background of the present application ("the Background") in view of Sweitzer et al. (U.S. Pub. 2002/0072879). Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Background in view of Sweitzer, and further in view of Limberg (U.S. Pub. 2001/0033341). Claims 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Background in view of Sweitzer and further in view of the Widrow et al. publication. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections, and requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the following arguments.

Substance of Interview

As a preliminary matter, Applicant gratefully acknowledges the courtesies extended by the Examiner and his supervisor in the June 8, 2007, telephone interview with Applicant's representative, Jeffrey Lotspeich. The comments and explanations provided by both Examiners

were helpful and very much appreciated. Pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 713.04, Applicant provides the following remarks.

Prior to the interview, the Examiner was provided with a proposed Amendment. Claim 1 was discussed with regard to the Sweitzer patent. Applicant's position was that element 430 of Sweitzer does not provide the claimed "signal having the noise removed therefrom" as recited in element (e), nor does element 460 provide "calculating an error signal" as recited in element (c).

The Examiner acknowledged Applicant's position, and further suggested revising element (c) to require a particular component receiving the two signals recited in that element; the two signals being the reference error signal and the noise signal. The Examiner indicated that such changes help distinguish the claim over Sweitzer. The Examiner reasoned that while element 460 calculates an error signal based upon the difference between the two identified signals, element 460 does so using different types of signals. Specifically, element 460 does not receive the reference error signal and the noise signal.

The Examiner concluded by stating that a claim amendment commensurate with the above-noted remarks would likely define the claim over Sweitzer. Applicant understands that the Examiner will need a more-detailed review of the amended claims before a final determination of the patentability of the claims can be determined.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Background and Sweitzer

Claims 1-7 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Background in view of Sweitzer.

Claim 1 is directed toward a VSB reception system and requires a noise removing part for (c) <u>receiving the reference error signal and a noise signal</u> extracted from the equalized signal at a first operator which calculates an error signal that is a difference between the reference error signal and the noise signal extracted from the equalized signal."

The Office Action indicated that element 460 of Sweitzer discloses the "calculation" aspect of above-identified claim element. However, the claim now specifically recites "<u>receiving the reference error signal and a noise signal</u> extracted from the equalized signal at a first operator." Sweitzer has no such teaching. For example, assuming *arguendo* that element 460 calculates an "error signal," element 460 does not receive the reference error signal or the noise signal. This distinction was noted by the Examiner during the interview.

In view of the foregoing, Sweitzer fails to teach or suggest at least the above-two features recited in claim 1. The cited Background does not supply any of the deficiencies of Sweitzer. Accordingly, even if one skilled in the art were to combine the teachings of the asserted references in the manner alleged, claim 1 would be patentable since all claim elements are not taught or reasonably suggested. Dependent claims 2-7 and 11 are also believed patentable at least by virtue of their dependence on the patentable independent claim 1.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 8-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Background in view of Sweitzer, and further in view of other references referred to in the Office Action. Applicant has demonstrated above that neither the Background nor Sweitzer teach or suggest various features recited in claim 1. Applicant further submits that none of the additionally recited references supply any of the deficiencies of the cited portions of the

Background and Sweitzer. Therefore, for the reasons presented above, even if one skilled in the art were to combine the teachings of the asserted references, dependent claims 8-10 would be patentable at least by virtue of their dependency upon patentable independent claim 1.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above remarks, Applicant submits that the present Amendment places all claims of the present application in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested.
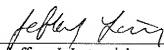
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California, telephone number (213) 623-2221 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee, Hong, Degerman, Kang & Schmadeka

Date: July 9, 2007

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